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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

Vol. 44 No. 352 Pages: 12 Rs. 2.00
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MYSURU Sunday 13th February 2022
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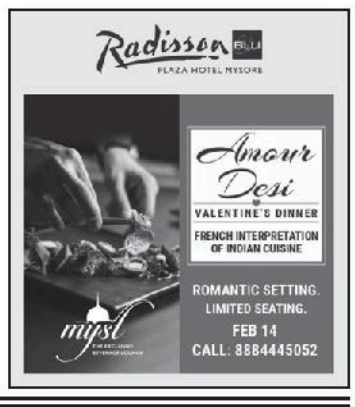


Mayor visits piped gas project in Tumakuru

● 70 percent works completed under Smart City in Tumakuru ● 19,500 houses getting clean fuel to kitchens in Hubballi-Dharwad

Mayor Sunanda Palanetra examining the gas pipeline trench laid in Tumakuru as** (from left) **Corporators Shivakumar, M.U. Subbaiah, Tumakuru Mayor Krishnappa, Mysuru Corporator Ramesh and Tumakuru City Corporation Commissioner Renuka look on.

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (BCT)- While the pros and cons of direct-to-home Piped Natural Gas (PNG) in Mysuru is being discussed in public and private platforms and on social media, thanks to the heat and dust it has raised in the last one month or so, a team from the city, led by Mayor Sunanda Palanetra, visited Tumakuru on Feb. 7 to have a first-hand information on how the PNG project is being implemented there.

Though it was a private visit on the invitation of Tumakuru Mayor Krishnappa, the visit assumes significance as a lot of debate is going on regarding the issue. Other members of the team were Corporator and former Leader of Opposition in the MCC M.U. Subbaiah, Corporators Ramesh and Shivakumar.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore* on the visit and the progress of the gas pipeline project in Tumakuru, Mayor Sunanda Palanetra said that Tumakuru has got the project as part of Smart City allocation where Rs. 900 crore is being methodically spent.

"Tumakuru has seen tremendous development and every aspect of a Smart City — be it LED lighting, gas pipeline and infrastructure — is being systematically developed," she said.

To Our Readers

Turn to Page-9 for Bhamy V. Shenoy's article titled ***"Piped Natural Gas to Mysuru: All you wanted to know."*** *—***Ed**

"I had met the Tumakuru Mayor at the inauguration of the Kashi Vishwanath Dham where Mayors from over 120 cities were in Varanasi for the All-India Mayors' Conference last December. We went to Tumakuru to study the PNG project so that we can inform others about it," she said.

The project is an efficient system to supply PNG directly to homes and trenches that resemble internet cable digging are being dug up by the side of the roads, without disturbing the existing water, UGD and other connections. There are switches at particular intervals and the connections are given directly to kitchens where also there is a facility of switching on or off, Sunanda said.

"Overall, the project that is being implemented in Tumakuru is efficient and the fuel is clean. Once the project is realised, 40 percent of the gas bills will be reduced. Already 70 percent of the works have been completed as part of the Smart City initiative," said Corporator Subbaiah.

Roads main concern

"No one in Mysuru — not even Corporators or the MLAs — is against the gas project. As the work is being done in phases, there are concerns over road digging and how the road will be restored. In fact, if there is a delay in road restoration, Corporators and MLAs will have to face public backlash and it is a loss of face to them. If the approvals are speeded up and works are carried out at a faster pace, then all controversies can be avoided," the Mysuru Mayor said.

19,500 houses connected in Hubballi-Dharwad

In Tumakuru Geographical Area (GA), Hyderabad-based Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited (MEIL) has bagged the tender to implement city gas distribution in Tumakuru.

(See MAYOR on page 7)

Foreign tourists, yoga lovers arrive in city

1,372 tourists have come to Mysuru since December 2021

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (MTY&BCT)- Following India reopening its borders to mass foreign tourism, ending a two-year clampdown as Coronavirus infections across the country remained low and vaccination rates high, hundreds of tourists have arrived in Mysuru, a majority of them Yoga enthusiasts and some small percentage of holidaymakers.

Though the numbers are yet to reach the maximum, tourism stakeholders say that the tourist arrival is promising and gives a positive outlook for Mysuru.

After years, they are seen roaming around in auto rickshaws, taxis, tongas, buses and some of them have even been spotted at Bandipur Tiger Reserve taking the safaris.

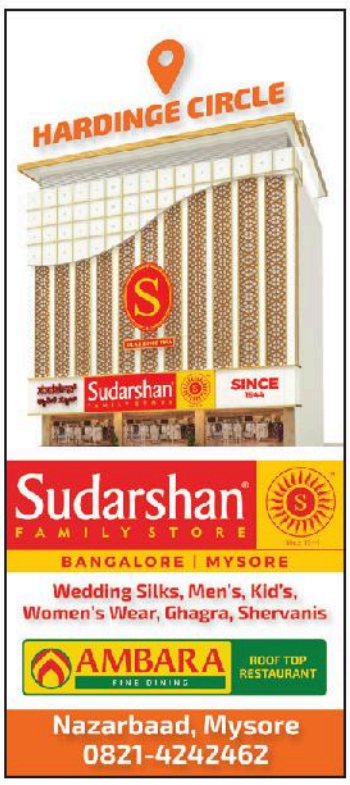
Yoga centres and schools in Gokulam and surrounding areas are teeming with tourists and they have even taken houses on rent for accommodation.

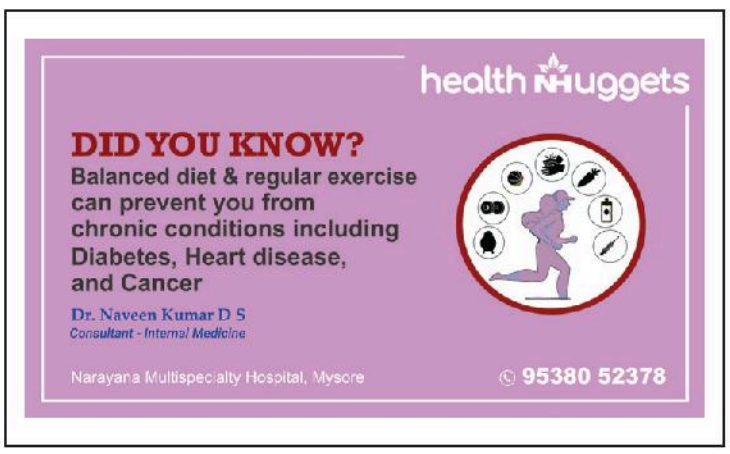
According to the data provided by District Health Officer (DHO) Dr. K.H. Prasad, from December last year, 1,372 tourists have arrived in Mysuru from high risk countries and of them, 1,041 have been swab-tested and 109 turned positive. 331 tourists gave invalid phone numbers and incorrect addresses.

Meanwhile, Federation of Organisations and Associations of Mysuru (FOAM) President B.S. Prashanth, who is also the President of the Dasara Committee of Karnataka Tourism Society, told *Star of Mysore* this morning that tourists are making their presence felt in Mysuru. "The fear of pandemic is also waning now and restrictions have been removed. It will take another two to three months for the tourist arrival to pick up and now we are seeing a lot of travel bookings from Bengaluru," he said.

Mysuru Hotel Owners Association President C. Narayanagowda said that as a majority of the foreign tourists who have come to Mysuru are yoga enthusiasts, there has been an increase in rental and lease accommodation with little impact on hotel bookings.

"For hotel bookings to improve, holidaymakers must arrive in droves. We are expecting the scene to improve by April this year. The hospitality industry that had collapsed to 2 to 5 percent occupancy is now seeing up to 40 to 50 percent bookings. Some of the star hotels have 70 to 75 percent bookings now," he added.




health Nuggets
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Consultant - Internal Medicine
Narayana Multispecialty Hospital, Mysore
95380 52378

STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Sunday 13th February 2022

Joyalukkas announces

exclusive 'BeMine Heart to Heart' collection for Valentine's Day

Mysuru, Feb. 13 - Joyalukkas, one of the leading jewellery groups in India, has announced its exclusive 'BeMine Heart to Heart' collections for customers on the occasion of Valentine's Day (Feb.14).

The special collection of unique ornaments and designs based on the theme of love which is illustrated in the form of a heart will make Valentine's Day more significant. The collection on heart theme includes certified and shimmering diamonds and ruby set in sparkling gold and rose gold, gorgeous bracelets, earrings, pendants, rings, etc.

'BeMine Heart to Heart' collections are crafted with utmost care making them suitable for any occasion and can be worn by gold lovers of all age groups. The special 'BeMine Heart to Heart' collections are available across all stores.

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

AUTOGRAPH, PLEASE: ***Meeting a celebrity and getting an autograph is a dream many cherish. It was mine too ever since I shifted to Patna from a nondescript place Dumka (now in Jharkhand) where I was studying in a missionary school. In those days, Patna was the hub of musical soiree during Durga Puja and Diwali, besides Saraswati Puja. This was in the 70s and 80s, much before the internet and mobile invaded our privacy and made our lives more mechanical. This was an era where you could see and meet a celebrity face-to-face, sit for hours late in the night and watch them perform live on the stage.***

So, one Dussehra evening, I told my father that I have to watch the celebrities perform live from close quarters. He tried his best, but could not arrange the VIP pass. So he took me in his brand new Fiat and parked his car quite close to the stage where the veteran singer Mahendra Kapoor was singing one musical hit after another — 'Neele gagan ke taley', 'Mere desh ki dharti' and 'Fakira chal chala chal'. The last number was a chart-buster from Shashi Kapoor-Shabana Azmi starrer 'Fakira' and made the audience crave for more with 'once more, once more' chanting.

The next day Mahendra Kapoor was to board an Indian Airlines flight from Patna airport. In those pre-liberalisation days, there was only one national carrier. Incidentally, I was supposed to board the same flight as I was travelling from Patna to Lucknow, while the noted singer was flying to New Delhi. This was my debut flight and I, barely 13-year-old, was so awe-struck and nervous at the airport that I could not muster enough courage to even greet the singer.

Inside the aircraft, I saw him sitting in the front row — calm, cool and composed. I took a deep breath, regained my composure and walked up to him: "You mesmerised everyone, yesterday. Autograph, please!!!" Mahendra Kapoor smiled and asked me: "Beta, kya naam hai aapka?" I said, "Abhay Kumar. I watched your programme yesterday throughout the night sitting on the bonnet of my father's car." "To Abhay, With love. Mahendra Kapoor." The veteran singer gave me his autograph, with a disarming smile. This was my first autograph. And in those days, much more precious than the present-day selfies. —*Abhay Kumar in Deccan Herald*

NEWS SPARKLERS

Bored security guard fired for defacement

Yekaterinburg: A security guard at an art gallery in west-central Russia was fired on his first day on the job for defacing a valuable painting. The guard allegedly used a ballpoint pen and drew eyes on two of the three faceless figures in the piece of art called 'Three Figures', which were insured for about 1 million dollars because he was 'bored.' It was on display as part of an exhibition titled 'The World as Non-Objectivity. The Birth of a New Art'. It was created by Anna Leporskaya, a student of Russian avant-garde artist Kazimir Malevich, between 1932 and 1934.

The guard is believed to have defaced the painting on Dec. 7, 2021, but he was sacked this week after his identity was ascertained. The security guard faces a vandalism charge, which comes with a fine of 40,000 Russian Rubles (about RS. 40,000) and a one-year correctional labour sentence.

Potato Commission launches potato perfume

Idaho: The Idaho Potato Commission (IPC) has announced that it is celebrating Valentine's Day and also launching the State's signature crop with a limited-edition product: potato perfume.

The IPC said that the fragrance named 'Frites by Idaho,' is made from distilled Idaho potatoes and essential oils and is designed to smell like a fresh plate of French fries.

The commission said fragrance bottles were sold out quickly on the IPC website, but social media users can still enter an Instagram contest to win free bottles. IPC President and CEO Jamey Higham said "Whether you're at a drive through restaurant or dining in, it's impossible to not grab a fry and take a bite. The smell is too good to resist."

HEALTH CAPSULE

Preventing Oral Cancers

Oral health is determined by diet, hygiene, smoking, alcohol use, and stress. Get screened - early detection saves life.

By Dr. Praveen Kumar - Ear, Nose, and throat
Manipal Hospital, Mysore

manipalhospitals
LIFE'S ON

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

State-level Job Mela for disabled youths at Bengaluru on Feb.25

Mysuru, Feb.13- Samarthanam, an organisation working for the welfare of the disabled, has organised a State-level Job Mela for disabled youths at Manpho Bell Hotel and Convention Centre located close to KSR Bengaluru City Railway Station at Majestic in Bengaluru on Feb.25.

Disabled youths who hold educational qualifications ranging from SSLC to Post-Graduate degree can take part.

The interested disabled youths can register for the Job Mela through the link *https:// www.samarthanam.org/job-fair/.* For more details and information, call Ph: 080- 68333999 or Mob: 63648-67795 or 94498-64693.

Nanjangud CMC invites applications to avail various benefits

Mysuru, Feb. 13 - Nanjangud CMC (City Municipal Council) has invited applications from eligible candidates for availing various benefits under General Corpus fund as announced in its 2021-22 budget. Benefits include distribution of sewing machines, toolkits to Vishwakarma community members, iron box to Madiwala community and saloon toolkits for Nayanaja Kshatriya (Savita Samaja) members. Applicants must be permanent residents of Nanjangud. Last date for submission of applications along with related documents at Nanjangud CMC Office is Feb. 21.

REALLY...?

- ***A sunflower is not just one flower. Both the fuzzy brown centre and the classic yellow petals are actually 1,000 - 2,000 individual flowers, held together on a single stalk.***
- ***Snapdragon flowers resemble a dragon, and if you squeeze the sides, the dragon's mouth will appear to open and close.***

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

CURIOUS KIDS

Our six-year-old daughter, Terra, has a need to ask questions… lots of questions. Finally, one day, my wife had had it.
"Have you ever heard that curiosity killed the cat?" *my wife asked.*
"No," replied Terra.
"Well, there was a cat, and he was very inquisitive. And one day, he looked into a big hole, fell in, and died!"
Terra was intrigued:
"What was in the hole?"

TODAY'S CURRENCY RATE

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 75.35
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 102.22
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.52
1 Euro	= Rs. 85.53

COVID-19 UPDATE - MYSURU

	FEBRUARY 11	FEBRUARY 12
Day's Positive Cases	226	197
Total Positive Cases	2,28,238	2,28,435
Day's Discharges	609	465
Total Discharges	2,23,969	2,24,434
Day's Deaths	3	2
Total Deaths	2,545	2,547
Total Active Cases	1,724	1,454

NOTE: Figures as per Government Media Bulletin

VOICE OF THE READER

Vijayanagar 2nd Stage roads crying for attention

Sir,

The main connecting roads in Vijayanagar 2nd Stage are in a pathetic condition. The High Tension Road (Trinetra Circle to Ring Road, parallel to Vidyavardhaka College to Ring Road) and Kannada Sahitya Parishat Road are unmotorable.

These roads provide main connectivity to many other areas and thousands of motorists commute on this route.

Many concerned citizens have voiced their opinions umpteen times through your columns but all have fallen on deaf ears. The horrendous roads and negligence from the authorities continues. Probably they are waiting for a casualty or someone to start a dharna on the potholed roads.

Hope the authorities concerned will act at least now.

—Rakesh Babu

Mysuru 11.2.2022

High Schools to re-open tomorrow with all precautionary measures

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (RK&DM)- Following an interim order of the High Court on the row over dress code (Hijab-saffron shawl row) in educational institutions, the High Schools (Classes 9 and 10), which were ordered to shut down by the Government for a brief period, are now all set to re-open from tomorrow (Feb. 14), with all precautionary measures in place.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has directed the DCs and SPs of the districts to take necessary measures for ensuring incident free classes in schools, without waiting for any Government directions in this regard.

Subsequent to the CM's direction, Mysuru DDPI Ramachandraraje Urs held a virtual meeting with all BEOs and other Education Department officials on Saturday and discussed the measures to be taken for smooth conduct of classes.

DDPI Ramachandraraje Urs told *Star of Mysore* that all measures have been taken to re-start High Schools from tomorrow following a Court order and directions from the Government.

Pointing out that he has discussed plans with the BEOs, BRCs, CRCs and other officials through a virtual meeting, he said that the officials have been asked to mandatorily stay put at their work place and oversee the preparations for the re-start of High Schools.

Noting that the officials have been instructed to report any problems immediately to the concerned BEO and the Police, Urs said that all School Heads have been asked to ensure that CCTVs installed in schools are in working condition.

He further said that the officials are also told to bring to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner in case of any untoward incidents.

Mysuru SP R. Chethan said that the District Police have contacted all school administrations on re-opening of schools from Feb.14.

Pointing out that Police will be deployed at schools in sensitive areas as a precautionary measure, he said that barring children and staff, no other unauthorised persons will be allowed entry to schools. Legal action will be initiated against those persons who attempt to enter schools forcibly and try to disturb peace, he warned.

Meanwhile, following directions from City Police Commissioner Dr. Chandragupta, the Inspectors of all Civil Police Stations in the city held a meeting with schools heads and the management of schools coming in their respective jurisdiction on Saturday.

Schools were told to immediately inform Police in case of any untoward incidents or attempts to disturb peace and harmony in the vicinity. The Police also asked them not to allow any unauthorised persons to enter the school campuses.

Facilities for SC/ ST farmers

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (SSM) - The Department of Agriculture, Mysuru Taluk has invited applications from SC/ ST community farmers of Mysuru Taluk to avail 90 percent subsidy for Sprinkler Irrigation Units (all crops) and Drip Irrigation Units (sugarcane crop) under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana on Micro Irrigation.

Farmers may obtain applications from nearby Raitha Samparka Kendras and submit the filled-in applications along with relevant documents at the Raitha Samparka Kendra Office.

For details contact, Hobli Raitha Samparka Kendras in the taluk or Jayapura and Varuna Agriculture Officer C.M. Karthik on Mob: 82779-33163, Yelwal Agriculture Officer M.B. Manjula on Mob: 82773-99155, Kasaba Agriculture Officer P.N Jeevan on Mob: 82779-33173, according to a press release from Mysuru Taluk Assistant Agriculture Director H.B. Madhulatha.

Nominated to Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha

Mysuru, Feb.13- Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha State President Ashok Haranahalli has nominated the following as State-level office-bearers of the Mahasabha:

A. Pushpa Iyengar (State Vice-President); Dr. B.R. Nataraj Jois (Zonal Vice-President-Mysuru, Mandya, Chamarajanagar and Kodagu districts); G.R.Vidyaranya (Member of State Executive Committee); R.S. Satyanarayana (Member of State Executive Committee) and M.S. Anantha Prasad (Zonal Secretary).

For more details, call Mob: 80887-99540.

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Secure & experiential learning
Best of play area
*Last Date for submitting application
25th February 2022
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Products on Display : Bihar : Organic Tassar Silk Saris, Suit & Stoles Karnataka : Creap Silk, Georgette Silk, Arini Silk & Printed Sarees Tamilnadu : Kanjeevaram Silk Sarees & Designer fancy Sarees Andra Pradesh : Dharmavara, Mangalagiri Gadwal, Uppada & Pochampalli Sarees Uttar Pradesh : Lucknowi Chikan, Mulbari, Jamdani, Jamawar Silk & Chiffon Silk Maharashtra : Designer Dress materials Punjab : Patiala & Fulkari Dress materials Orissa : Sambalpuri, Ikkat, Bomkai Sarees Handloom Silk Cotton Chhattisgarh : Exclusive Raw Silk Saris, Kosa Silk, Tassar Suit & Duppatta Madhya Pradesh : Maheswari, Chanderi Silk Sarees & Suit West Bengal : Baluchari, Dhaka Masli, Boutique Saris, Kantha Saris, Zordoshi Assam : Muga & Eri Silk Sarees Jammu & Kashmir : Kashmir silk, Shawls Suit & Pashmina Rajasthan : Kota Silk, Hand Block Print Dress & Saree
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NEWS BRIEFS

Entries invited

Karnataka Rajya Vokkaligara Vikasa Vedike, Mysuru, has invited entries from achiever women and men for conferment of State-level 'Smt. Yashodaramma Dasappa Award' and 'Seva Bhushana Award' instituted in memory of K.H. Ramaiah. Men and women, who have excelled in different fields, can apply along with supporting documents to the Vedike office located on the second floor of City Bus Stand building, K.R. Circle, before Feb. 22. The awards will be conferred at the Women's Day celebration. [Mob: 99026-98623]

Matrimonial Meet

JSS Vivaha Vedike has organised an online matrimonial meet of prospective brides and bridegrooms at 11 am on Feb. 20. The admission is open for those who have registered with the Vedike. However, those who have not registered so far, too can participate by registering at the Vedike office located in JSS Mahavidyapeetha premises. [Ph: 0821-2430322 or Mob: 96110-70674]

Mass marriage

Marking Suttur Jatra Mahotsav, Jagadguru Veerasimhasana Mahasamsthana Mutt, Suttur, will be conducting a mass marriage at Suttur in Nanjangud taluk on Feb. 21. Minimum age for brides is 18 years and that for bridegrooms is 21 years. Interested brides and bridegrooms can register at least 8 days in advance, at the office of the Administrative Officer, JSS Educational Institutions, Suttur. [Ph: 08221-232217 or 97413-42222].

WATER LEVEL

KRS DAM

Maximum	:	124.80	feet
Today	:	118.32	feet
Yesterday	:	118.42	feet
Inflow	:	366	cusecs
Outflow	:	1,613	cusecs

KABINI DAM

Maximum	:	2,284.00	feet
Today	:	2,281.21	feet
Inflow	:	193	cusecs
Outflow	:	1,925	cusecs

HARANGI DAM

Maximum	:	2,859.00	feet
Today	:	2856.94	feet
Inflow	:	115	cusecs
Outflow	:	50	cusecs

Railways preparing DPRs for seven bullet trains

MP hails 435-km Mysuru-Bengaluru-Chennai Corridor

Ashwini Vaishnaw

Pratap Simha

Picture for representation only.

New Delhi, Feb. 13 (Agencies)- In a push for India's marquee bullet train programme, the Railway Ministry is preparing the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for seven high speed rail corridors, Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said in a written reply in Rajya Sabha on Feb. 11.

These are: Delhi-Varanasi, Delhi-Amritsar, Delhi-Ahmedabad, Mumbai-Nagpur, Mumbai-Hyderabad, Chennai-Bengaluru-Mysuru, and Varanasi-Howrah. The Railways had received DPR for New Delhi-Varanasi Corridor from the National High Speed Rail Corp. Ltd (NHSRCL) and the same for Mumbai-Nagpur Corridor was in its final stages.

Calling out the Railway Minister's announcement in the Parliament, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha has thanked the Minister and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for including Mysuru in India's high-speed railway (bullet train) map.

India's first bullet train project between Mumbai and Ahmedabad is being executed by NHSRCL. Work on the project, however, has been slow, with challenges in route alignment and acquisition. The 500-km-plus section will entail an investment of more than Rs. 1 trillion, with trains plying at close to 300-km per hour, using Japanese E5 Shinkansen technology.

Indian Railways has the world's largest rail network under a single management and has been trying to become future ready. "Indian Railways have prepared a National Rail Plan (NRP) for India-2030. The plan is to create a 'future ready' Railway system by 2030. The NRP is aimed to formulate strategies based on both operational capacities and commercial policy initiatives to increase the modal share of the Railways in freight to 45 percent," Vaishnaw said.

The DPR for the 435-km Mysuru-Bengaluru-Chennai Corridor is also being prepared. Once the project is implemented, the bullet train from Mysuru to Chennai via Bengaluru will take just two hours and 25 minutes as against the current seven hours in Shatabdi Express which is the fastest train on this route.

On a normal train journey, it takes over 10 hours to travel between the two cities. Shatabdi travels at a maximum speed of 110-km per hour.

The bullet train will run at a maximum speed of 320 kilometres per hour and the actual distance from Mysuru to Chennai is over 485 kilometres while the bullet train corridor will be 435 kilometres. Going by the train speed, it can cover the 145-km distance from Mysuru to Bengaluru in just 45 minutes.

Tiger Menace: Forest Department begins combing operation

Summons tamed elephants Ganesh, Balarama to the spot

Hunsur, Feb. 13 (Mahesh, Raghu&KS)- The Forest Department staff have begun the combing operation to trace and trap an elusive tiger which is causing menace in the region.

Though the combing operation had begun to trap the tiger, the tiger was untraceable on Saturday and the Forest staff have stayed put in the forest and are conducting the combing operation.

On Friday, the tiger was spotted in broad daylight on Uduvepura-Aiyyanakere Tribal Hamlet Road, Hanagod hobli bordering Nagarahole Reserve Forest, creating fear among tribals and villagers, who informed the same to the Forest Department officials.

The Forest Department staff, with guidance from senior wildlife division officials, summoned tamed elephants Ganesh and Balarama to the spot and Deputy Range Forest Officers (DRFOs) Siddaraju and Veerabhadraiah are leading the combing operation along with the staff of Anti Poaching Camp (APC), Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) and Rapid Response Team (RRT).

Though the combing operation was conducted near the Watch Tower, Balagere and surrounding places, where the tiger was spotted on Friday, the feline was not traceable.

As a precautionary measure, the residents of villagers bordering the forest have been urged not to venture out alone, said Assistant Conservator of Forests (ACF) Satish.

It may be recalled that about a year back, a tiger had killed a tribal youth of Aiyyanakere Tribal Hamlet and the same tiger was found dead due to starvation. Following the death of the tribal youth, people of the hamlet and surrounding villages were living in a sense of fear and the villagers have urged the Forest Department authorities to trap the elusive tiger at the earliest.

Obituary

P. Nagaraj Jain

Mysuru, Feb. 13- P. Nagaraj Jain (75), Proprietor of Mysore Bolts and Nuts and a resident of Moksha Marga in Siddarthanagar, passed away yesterday in city.

He leaves behind his wife, one son, two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the foot of Chamundi Hill today.

Asha Das

Asha Das (74), wife of senior photographer late Amar Das Hinduja and a resident of Hebbal, passed away yesterday at a private hospital. She leaves behind son Nithin Hinduja, daughters Jyothi and Preethi and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were held yesterday.

Kulletira Baby Appaiah

Kulletira Baby Appaiah (Ajjikuttira), a resident of Hebbal 2nd Stage, near Kittur Rani Chennamma Circle, passed away yesterday in city. She was 83.

She leaves behind daughter Mandira Anitha, son-in-law Mandira Bellu Kalaiah and a host of relatives and friends.

Her body was donated to JSS Hospital in city this morning.

Mahadevashetty

Yalandur: Mahadevashetty (68), a resident of Y.K. Mole village in Yalandur taluk, passed away yesterday morning at the village.

He leaves behind his wife, son Basavaraju (a journalist), two daughters and a host of relatives and friends.

Last rites were performed at the family's farm land this morning.

Budget aimed at realising visions of centenary year of Indian Independence: MP

Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha adressing a press meet at City BJP Office this morning as City BJP President T.S. Srivatsa (left) and State BJP Vice-President M. Rajendra (right) look on.

Mysuru, Feb.13(RKB&DM)- Maintaining that the Centre's budget announced on Feb.1, 2022 is aimed at realising the visions that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has for the country in 2047, when the country celebrates the centenary of Indian Independence, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha said that the Centre's budget is a move in the right direction and the Opposition was making unnecessary fuss about the country's economic situation.

Addressing a press meet at the City BJP Office at Chamarajapuram here this morning, the MP, maintaining that the budgets of the earlier Governments used to be superficial, with nothing much practical taking place on the ground, Simha termed the merger of the Railway budget with the financial budget, starting from 2017, as a good move by the Centre.

Contending that Modi will take steps to release the money to meet all the budgetary allocations starting from April itself after getting the President's approval for the budget, Simha said that Modi has created a history of sorts by vaccinating the country's eligible population with 150 crore doses.

Noting that in the past only 6 km of Highways was being done every day, the MP said that after Modi took over, 'Gatishakti' initiative was introduced and now 37 km of Highways is being constructed on an average daily.

Asserting that Modi has set a target of laying 25,000 km roads across the country this fiscal year, he said that the Modi Government has done a major overhaul of the Railway Department, which was hitherto functioning with a British Raj mindset.

Lauding the Railway Minister for plans to introduce 400 'Onde Bharat' High Speed Trains this year, he said that it is important to note that these trains are being manufactured domestically.

Expressing happiness that Mysuru-Chennai section is being covered under 'Onde Bharat' Train initiative, he said that Karnataka has got Rs. 6,900 crore for various Railway projects, which is multiple-fold when compared to the budgetary allocations of the previous Governments.

Pointing out that Modi is now realising Atal Bihari Vajpayee's dream project of river-linking, Simha expressed hope that Cauvery-Pennar River linking will resolve the Cauvery water dispute between the riparian States in a manner that is satisfactory to all the riparian States.

Referring to housing sector, Simha said that Modi has planned to build 80 lakh houses for the needy this fiscal year, which will largely address the housing issues.

Replying to a question on former Chief Minister Siddharamaiah's allegations that Modi is taking the country to bankruptcy, Simha contended that Siddu as the CM for 5 years, had borrowed money from different sources, like no other Chief Ministers of the State has done so far. Arguing that Siddu lacked knowledge about the country's economy, he said that no one need to have any fear about the status of the Indian economy as it is in the safe hands of PM Modi.

Replying to another question on Siddu's charge that the Centre had failed in releasing funds to States under GST, the MP said that the Centre will release GST dues to all States and no State need to have any concerns about it.

Simha also wondered, why Siddharamaiah, who boasts of presenting the maximum number of budgets, failed to revive the now shut down Falcon Tyres in the city, which had employed thousands of workers.

State BJP Vice-President M. Rajendra, City President T.S. Srivatsa, leaders N. Rajkumar, M.G. Mahesh, Maheshraje Urs and others were present.

Legislature Session from tomorrow

- Likely to be stormy as Opposition all set to take on Govt.
- Governor to address Joint Session

Bengaluru, Feb. 13- The Legislature Session starting from tomorrow (Feb. 14) is likely to be stormy as the Opposition is set to raise heat on the row over dress code in Schools and Colleges that is raging across the State and a slew of other issues.

The pending Mekedatu Project, inter-State river linking projects announced by the Centre in its budget, delay in road repair works in Bengaluru and allegations of 40 percent commission for Government works and contracts are among the issues that are likely to be raised by the Opposition.

The Legislature Session would begin with an address by Governor Thawarchand Gehlot to members of both Houses on Monday. The session will continue till Feb. 25.

The session is also likely to witness a heated debate on other issues such as alleged discrimination in release of funds by the Government to Assembly segments represented by Congress and JD(S) legislators, alleged step-motherly treatment meted out to Karnataka in release of funds under GST by the Centre, delay in holding BBMP, ZP and TP elections etc.,

The 10-day Assembly Session is also likely to see tabling of two Bills — Karnataka Stamps (Amendment) Bill and Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill — and over 2,000 questions.

Meanwhile, Assembly Speaker Vishweshwara Hegde Kageri on Saturday said that he would explore the possibility of allocating two days exclusively for discussion on electoral reforms during the Session, which is likely to be objected by the Opposition.

"I will take up the issue with the floor leaders of all parties in the Business Advisory Committee and finalise dates for the discussion," Kageri said adding that he has requested the Council Chairman also to take up the matter for discussion in the Upper House.

Gehlot to enter Assembly through grand steps

Kageri said that Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot will arrive to the Assembly Hall through the grand steps of the State Secretariat to address the Joint Session of the Legislature on Monday.

Thaawarchand Gehlot

Pointing out that the practice of arriving through the grand steps was stopped years ago for various reasons, Kageri said "This time, we have requested the Governor to climb the grand steps and enter the Assembly Hall, to which he has agreed."

Earlier on Saturday, the presiding officers of both the Houses of the Legislature — Vishweshwara Hegde Kageri and Basavaraj Horatti — called on the Governor at Raj Bhavan and extended the invitation to address the Joint Session.

SHRADDHANJALI

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Sri. P. Nagaraju Jain

Proprietor, Mysore Bolt Nut House
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whose divine soul departed on
Saturday 12th of February 2022.

With prayers and gratitude:
Beloved Wife, Son, Daughters, Grandchildren, Relatives and Friends

Over a cup of evening Tea

By Dr. K. Javeed Nayeem, MD

The double anguish of Lata Mangeshkar's death!

In the recent passing away of the legendary singer **Lata Mangeshkar,** her die-hard fans and even moderate music-lovers too, have lost a very endearing and enduring icon. Yes, she was an icon and will continue to remain immortalised for many years because of the very rich legacy of music she has left behind.

I say this because if we look back, we can see how almost every singer and musician, without any exception, who has exited from this world has continued to remain enshrined in the hearts of music-lovers. **Even the people who started their careers in the early part of the last century still continue to enthral us to this day a full century later, although they themselves passed away more than half-a-century ago. Music is such an enduring and overwhelming art.**

Many people have lamented Lata Mangeshkar's passing away although everyone knew that it was imminent and inevitable, considering her advanced age, which thankfully had left her active and on her own two feet almost till the end. **Yes, dying while we are up and about on our own two feet, without helplessly being confined to a bed and the mercy of caretakers is the most fortunate and dignified way of walking out of this world.**

Almost every one of the many patients whom I see in their advanced age and in a very sick state, tell me that one must never pray for a long life unless it is also accompanied by good health. It is so true. Many people have expressed their sense of loss and longing by paying very rich tributes to Lata Mangeshkar through their writings and utterances, which she richly and undoubtedly deserved.

As a music-lover myself, I too feel bad that her melodious voice is stilled forever and we will never get to hear any new songs from her. But some of the great songs that she has left behind will continue to enthral me the way they enthral millions of others which perhaps will mitigate the sense of loss to a large extent.

But I am writing this piece not as much to express my sense of loss as a music-lover but to express my sense of anguish and outrage as a doctor who had the unfortunate chance to see the very disrespectful way she was portrayed while she was hospitalised, albeit briefly.

We saw and continue to see distressing pictures and videos that show her, dishevelled and completely helpless, in a hospital gown, being helped to walk around in her ward with complete disregard to how she would be feeling deep inside her.

A lady who had all through her long life portrayed herself in the most dignified and graceful way, which had actually become her hallmark image, was divested of her dignity and grace by the very same people who were supposed to be looking after her during her illness.

Thankfully, providence was kinder to her than them and this sad phase did not last long. Although I cannot say who exactly was guilty of this cruelty, I certainly can hazard a guess and say that it was the few people who had an occasion to be around her in her last moments who were so thoughtlessly responsible for this insensitive act. This privilege should never have been misused by them to show the world something that should never have been shown. A patient's private moments and his or her unhappy and helpless state are something that belong only to him or her. They are not for the world to see and pity them.

Let us imagine for a moment how outraged and insulted she would have felt if Lata Mangeshkar had recovered from her illness and had had a chance to see how she was shown in her state of utter helplessness. It was perhaps only good for her that she did not live to see this. Otherwise, she would have died a hundred times more.

If it was the medical and para medical personnel entrusted with her treatment and care, who were guilty of this shameful act, let me as doctor reiterate here that while we have a great responsibility to protect the lives of our patients, we have a far greater responsibility to see that we also do so only while protecting their dignity and privacy. This is very important because the patients who come to us for treatment and confide in us and reveal their most personal problems and anxieties, do so only with the blind faith that we are different from other mortals and will never ever betray their trust and disclose them to others.

In fact, the ancient **Hippocratic Oath** that we all take and profess and proclaim to be our guiding spirit, very sternly says that we are duty-bound to maintain absolute secrecy and safeguard not just the lives but also the privacy of our patients.

Have we done so in Lata Mangeshkar's case? Certainly not. What a shame! **I only hope and pray that this will never be repeated any time ever in the future with any other patient who goes to any doctor or hospital for treatment!**

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Bahuroopi National Theatre Festival from Mar. 11 to 20

'Encyclopedia of the Forest' Tulasi Gowda to inaugurate

Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa, flanked by Bahuroopi Convenor Anju Singh and Rangayana Deputy Director Nirmala Matapathi, releasing 'Bahuroopi Theatre Festival' poster in city yesterday.

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (SBD&BNR)- Bahuroopi, the annual National Theatre Festival organised by Rangayana, Mysuru, which was scheduled to be held from Dec. 10 to Dec. 19, 2021 and was postponed due to COVID pandemic, is now slated to be held from Mar. 11 to 20.

Tulasi Gowda

Announcing this at a press meet at Rangayana yesterday, Rangayana Mysuru Director Addanda C. Cariappa said that Bahuroopi, which is being held with the theme 'Taayi (Motherhood),' features plays in different languages, folk art, International Film Festival, Seminar and other programmes.

'Encyclopedia of the Forest' and *Padma Shri* Tulasi Gowda will inaugurate the Festival. Actor and advocate Malavika Avinash, District Minister S.T. Somashekar, Kannada & Culture Minister Sunil Kumar, MP Pratap Simha, MLAs L. Nagendra & S.A. Ramdas, MUDA Chairman H.V. Rajeev and others will take part.

Chairmen/ Chairpersons of Karnataka Janapada Academy, Yakshagana Academy, Karnataka Chalanachitra Academy and Kannada Development Authority and various artistes will attend.

TICKETS

The programmes of Bahuroopi will be held at various venues — Bhoomigeeta, Vanaranga, B.V. Karanth Ranga Chavadi, Sampath Rangamandira, Kalamandira and Kindarijogi premises. A total of 1,800 seats can be arranged.

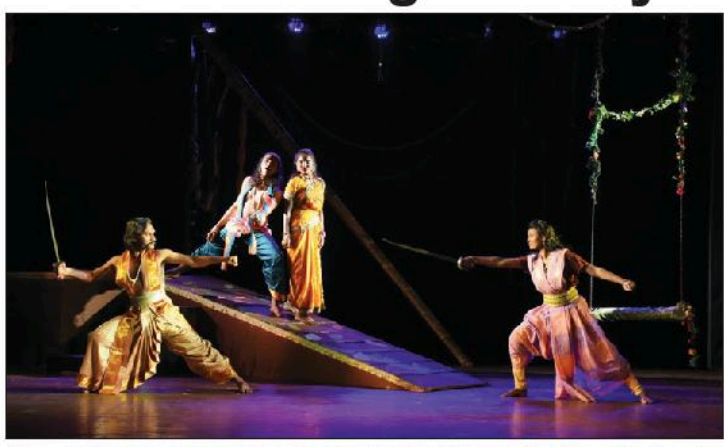
Tickets will be issued from Mar. 1 and can be purchased online as well. While ticket for each play is priced at Rs. 100, all other programmes can be watched for free.

35 dramas: A total of 35 dramas, including Kannada, Tulu, Konkani, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Hindi, English, Marathi, Punjabi, Rajasthani and Odia language dramas, will be staged during the 10-day Theatre Festival.

24 cinemas, 60 stalls: A total of 24 cinemas will be screened at the International Film Festival. About 60 stalls will be erected in the Rangayana premises with food, books and handicrafts fair.

In list of State Festivals: "Responding to our requests, the then Minister of Kannada & Culture Department C.T. Ravi has included 'Bahuroopi Theatre Festival' in the list of State Festivals and for the first time, the Government has provided Rs. 50 lakh grant for Bahuroopi," Cariappa said.

Play 'Prameelarjuneeyam' to be re-staged today



The students of Rangayana's Bharatiya Rangavidyalaya staging the play 'Prameelarjuneeyam' at Bhoomigeeta in Rangayana premises last evening. The play, written by M.L. Srikanteshagowda and directed by Digvijaya, will be re-staged today at the same venue at 6.30 pm.

Piped gas project in city: Earlier the better

Tumakuru City Corporation Commissioner Renuka seen explaining the gas pipeline installation to Mysuru Mayor Sunanda Palanetra at Tumakuru Mayor Krishnappa's home where the gas pipeline has been laid and connected to the kitchen. Others in the photo are (from left) Corporators Shivakumar, M.U. Subbaiah, Ramesh and Tumakuru Mayor Krishnappa.

Mysuru Mayor, Corporators visit Tumakuru

(Continued from page 1)

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (BCT)- Any delay will spoil the actual public-friendly project and speedy approvals have to be accorded, opined Vijayanagar Corporator M.U. Subbaiah. He had been to Tumakuru along with Mayor Sunanda Palanetra and fellow Corporators to see how the project is being implemented there.

Delay in executing the project will lead to more problems and the project must be cleared speedily, he told *Star of Mysore*. The standards of digging, pipeline laying, connections and other basic principles have been clearly laid out by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and bids have been allotted to certain companies across India.

"In the first phase of the project (in one financial year), the gas pipeline implementing company (AG&P Pratham India) is taking up 530 km of pipeline laying and of it, 480 km comes under Chamaraja Constituency that includes my Ward No.20. In all, works will be taken up in 13 Wards of the 19 Wards in Chamaraja in the first phase, along with three Wards in Krishnaraja Constituency (T.K. Layout, Janata Nagar and one Ward in Kuvempunagar)," he said.

Supply of natural gas through the piped network is feasible only to well-planned localities. "It is very difficult to lay pipelines in congested areas. In Chamaraja, there are many big and small roads and both sides have to be dug up and most of the roads have been asphalted now. Again digging roads will cause problems and we (the Corporators and the MLAs) have to face criticism from the people though the company digs up the road and pays Rs. 1,957 per metre, apart from restoration," he said.

"In my personal opinion, many roads that have been dug up cannot immediately be restored and we have to wait till the mud settles in the trenches. Restoration will take time and the entire road will have to be relaid. All these factors must come up for discussion in the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Council and must be passed," he said.

Also, each Ward has some pending funds from various grants where the tender process is done but yet to be executed. These pending funds and the money paid by the gas pipeline company for the roads that have been dug up can be utilised together without any delay before monsoon. "The earlier the better," he said.

"If the project is delayed then if roads are dug in May, monsoon will set in the month of June and the next two to three months will be a mess if the roads are dug up. We have to face public anger. So I feel that the project must get speedy approval. Also, the money paid by the gas pipeline company for the roads that have been dug up must be utilised in that Ward itself instead of being diverted to other Wards," Subbaiah reasoned.

"In Hubballi-Dharwad, 19,500 houses are already getting piped gas and the project is also being implemented in Bengaluru by GAIL Gas Limited (GGL)," Subbaiah said.

In addition to being cleaner and greener, residents will be spared the hassle of booking a cylinder since natural gas will be supplied to them round-the-clock. It is also much safer since the threat of fires in the kitchen will be greatly reduced. Natural gas is lighter than air and hence, will not accumulate in a confined space. It is eco-friendly and combustion-free, the MCC Corporator added.

Man killed as bike hits scooter

Mysuru, Feb. 13 (MK&KS)- A 38-year-old man, who was bringing his daughter from school was killed while his wife and daughter sustained injuries, when a bike rammed into the scooter they were riding near Parasaiahnahundi in the taluk yesterday morning.

While the deceased has been identified as Panishahi, a Railway employee, the injured are 37-year-old Vinutha and six-year-old Dhatri, all residents of J.P. Nagar in city.

The bike rider, who had reportedly rammed into the scooter, has been identified as Mahesh, who too has been injured in the incident.

Yesterday morning, Panishahi along with his wife Vinutha, were bringing their daughter back from the school, when Mahesh, who came from the opposite direction rammed into the scooter, killing Panishahi on the spot and injuring his (Panishahi) wife and daughter.

Mysuru Rural Police, who have registered a case, are investigating.

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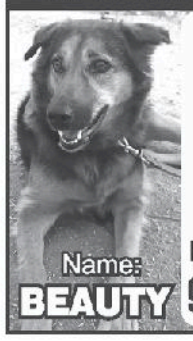
AFFIDAVIT
I, **Yashwanth Kumar J**, S/o Jaishankar C, aged 35 years, residing at No. 209/A, Siddivinayaka Block, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Teachers Layout, Mysore, in my passport by oversight my name is wrongly mentioned as **"Yashwanth Kumar Jayashankar"**. I further and state that in future I will be known and called as **Yashwanth Kumar J**, S/o. Jaishankar C in all my documents, sworn in before Notary R.B. Usha Rani, Mysuru vide affidavit dated 11-02-2022.
Sd/- Yashwanth Kumar J

DOG MISSING



Missing from Kergalli, Mysore. Finders will be rewarded. Please call: 9986493324

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Printed by T.S. Gopinath and published by M. Govinde Gowda on behalf of Academy Newspapers Private Limited at Academy Newspapers Private Limited, 15-C, Industrial 'A' Layout, Bannimantap, Mysuru-570 015. Editor: M. Govinde Gowda. Phone: 2496520 / 2496521 / 2496522 / 2496523 / 2496526 / 2496527 / 2496528. City offices: Visveshwaraya Building, III Floor, K.R. CIRCLE, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2431774 and No. 114, D.Devaraj Urs Road, Mysuru-570 001, Phone : 2428695, E-mail address: voice@starofmysore.com, For Advertisements: ad@starofmysore.com, RNI Reg. No. 29894/78.

Mysore Memories...

Prof. A.R. Krishnashastry-2

By Dr. Bhagirath
S. Naganath

Prof. A.R. Krishnashastry

[Continued from yesterday]

A. R. Krishnashastry took his B.A. exam in 1912. Regrettably, he failed in his English paper by a mark! He rewrote his English paper in 1913 and then graduated with a B.A. degree. Following his B.A., he embarked upon completing his M.A. in Kannada and Sanskrit. Shastry could ill afford to stay at Madras and study for his M.A.

To his surprise in 1914, Madras University eased its stipulation requiring a student to stay at Madras for the pursuit of M.A., especially in language studies. Shastry was overjoyed and made the best use of this opportunity. He at once collected books for Kannada and Sanskrit and began to study them intensively at Mysore. Once he was confident about his preparation, he gave his M.A. exam in both Kannada and Sanskrit at Madras University. He was among the handful few who had M.A. qualifications in both Kannada and Sanskrit at once!

Shastry sat for the Civil Service exams in 1914 and failed. But his failure in this endeavour paved the way for better things to come in the field of literary writing and teaching. For a brief few months, Krishnashastry worked at the Mysore Govt. District Office as a clerk for a meagre salary of Rs. 35 a month! As a married man with a family to feed, Shastry welcomed any small income till a steady job came his way.

Central College, Bangalore

By the combined efforts and blessings of a trio of M. Shama Rao, B.M. Srikantiah and J.G. Tate, A.R. Krishnashastry finally secured a tutor job at Central College, Bangalore, in the Kannada Department in 1915. His monthly salary was now Rs. 50. Mysore University took shape in 1916. During this period of transition from Madras to Mysore University, Shastry ended up without a salary for six months! Although he did get his arrears at the end of six months, Krishnashastry had a harrowing time making ends meet with many loans and meagre savings to draw from!

Central College in 1916 was predominantly Science-oriented in its scope and outreach. Kannada was not one of the sought-after subjects and there was a sad sense of disregard towards it. Krishnashastry took it upon himself to see to it that this sentiment was duly addressed. In the Intermediate exam syllabus of the Madras University, under the Kannada section there was a requirement to discuss one English novel. This was a sore point because Kannada teachers did not rise up to the task and English teachers did not condescend to teach this.

But Shastry proved to his students that Kannada teachers could indeed do justice to the original. His classes in this section were later some of the most memorable ones as recollected by scores of his students. It was quite evident that Shastry was at home in both Kannada as well as English literature studies.

Mysore Years

In 1919, A.R. Krishnashastry was replaced by T.S. Venkannayya and Krishnashastry was transferred to Mysore. At Mysore, he worked at the Oriental Research Institute under R. Shamashastry. Even though this was a departure from his teaching activities, Shastry took up the work with much zeal and is said to have impressed Shamashastry greatly. Between 1919-1927, Krishnashastry seems to have worked simultaneously at Maharaja College in addition to his regular job.

It was during these years that a formal Kannada Department took shape at the nascent University. By 1927, the M.A. course in Kannada had taken some shape and Krishnashastry's teaching activities at Maharaja College were taken due note of. Now a confirmed Lecturer, Krishnashastry was promoted to the post of Associate Professor at Central College, Bangalore. In his place, T.S. Venkannayya came back to Mysore. But in a sad turn of events T.S. Venkannayya passed away at the age of 52 years in 1939. So, A.R. Krishnashastry was now brought back to Mysore and eventually promoted as a full-fledged Professor at Maharaja College, where from he retired in 1946.

Krishnashastry played a key role in shaping the growth of Kannada Department at Maharaja College and nurtured many a future scholar and litterateur. Among these were the likes of Kuvempu, S. Srikanta Sastri, T. N. Srikantaiah, M.V. Seetharamaiah, G.P. Rajarathnam, K. Venkatarамappa, K. Krishnamoorthy and D.L. Narasimhachar. Krishnashastry is believed to have frequented the boys' hostel at Maharaja College in the early hours of dawn to get the young lads out of their beds and escort them to the college *Garadi Mane* (gym)! Their physical health was just as important as their education.

Contributions

A.R. Krishnashastry was instrumental in founding the Kannada Sangha (Karnataka Sangha) at Central College, Bangalore in 1918. Between 1933-46, Shastry played a leading role in the Editorial Committee for the English - Kannada Dictionary. He was the Chief Editor of *'Kannada Granthamale'* between 1942-46. In the same period, that is, 1943 - 46, A.R. Krishnashastry was also Editor for the Kannada Sahitya Parishat's monthly mouth-piece. Between 1943-57, he was the Editor for the Kannada Sahitya Parishat's Kannada Dictionary Project.

From 1919 - 63, Shastry was continuously involved in bringing about collections of poetry, editing various volumes of landmark Kannada works, dictionary projects, translating a number of Bengali works — including a collection of essays of poet laureate Rabindranath Tagore into Kannada *('Nibhandamala')*, penning number of Forewords and Prefaces to big volumes and contributing significantly to Hosagannada literature. His works run to about 3,000 - 4,000 pages worth of printed material! These collected works have been brought forth by Kannada Pustaka Pradhikara. His prominent works include *'Samskurta Nataka', 'Vachana Bharata', 'Kathamruta', 'Sreepathiya Kathegalu', 'Bankim Chandra', 'Sri Ramakrishna Paramahamsa Charitre', 'Nirmala Bharati', 'Alankara', 'Bhasa Kavi'* and *'Nagamahashaya'*.

The connoisseurs recognise abridgement and translation of classical works into modern languages as a fine art in itself. Krishnashastry's abridgement of *Vyasa Bharata* (one lakh shlokas) into concise Kannada continues to remain a favourite among generations of Kannada readers. The miracle is that no incident of Mahabharata has been left out by A.R. Krishnashastry.

Similarly, *Kathamruta* is a fine abridgment of voluminous *"Kathasaritasagara"*. Krishnashastry was proficient in Pali, Bengali (self-taught), Hindi and German. He introduced the great Bengali poets and novelists like Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Rabindranath Tagore to Kannada readers. One is reminded of famous abridgements in English language like *"Tales from Shakespeare"* by Charles and Mary Lamb, *"The Lessons of History"* by Will and Ariel Durant and *"A Study of History"* by Arnold. J. Toynbee (Vol. I to VI) rendered by D.C. Somervell.

His greatest contribution to Kannada literature is the founding of the Kannada literary journal *"Prabhuddha Karnataka"* published by Prasaranga of University of Mysore.

Recognition

A.R. Krishnashastry chaired the 26th Kannada Sahitya Sammelan at Hyderabad in 1941. In 1956, Krishnashastry received the Felicitation Volume — *'Abhivandane'*. University of Mysore conferred upon Shastry a Honorary D. Litt degree in recognition of his lifetime contribution to the world of Kannada literature and studies in 1960. His work *'Bankim Chandra'* won him the Kendra Sahitya Akademi's annual award in 1961. In 1968, *Prabhuddha Karnataka* brought forth a special issue showcasing all of A.R. Krishnashastry's works and contributions over the years.

Similar special editions were brought forth by Kannada Sahitya Akademi in its periodical in 1968 as well. In 2,000, the New Delhi Sahitya Akademi honoured Shastry by bringing out a brief biographical volume titled 'A.R. Krishnashastry' in its *"Bharathiya Sahitya Nirmapakaru"* series. Kannada litterateur H.M. Nayak described A.R. Krishnashastry as **'Kannada Senani.'**

A.R. Krishnashastry breathed his last at Bangalore on 1st February, 1968 at the age of 78 years. He lives on in the hearts and minds of Kannadigas through many of his lasting contributions.

(bugs2beatles@gmail.com)

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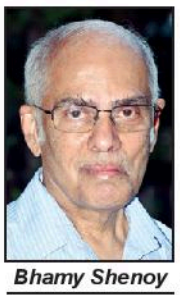
Piped Natural Gas to Mysuru

All you wanted to know

By Bhamy V. Shenoy



Bhamy Shenoy

In the world, the western democracies led by the US have threatened to stop the natural gas pipeline from Russia to Germany. Here in Mysuru, a similar thing is being carried out to stop Piped Natural Gas (PNG) supply by Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Corporators led by BJP MLAs.

Stopping Russian gas pipeline is to prevent potential attack of Ukraine by Russia. But what the Corporators are doing as we all know is for a less noble cause. They are putting hurdles to Prime Minister Narendra Modi from achieving his vision of India. He wants to increase the gas share of energy requirements from the current level of 6 percent to 15 percent by 2030 !

It is a crying shame that with the exception of Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, Chamundeshwari MLA G.T. Devegowda and MLC A.H. Vishwanath, just about every leader is spreading misleading and erroneous information about PNG. As expected, LPG dealers who will be adversely affected have not been helpful.

In all developed countries, natural gas is widely used (gas share is 26 percent). Even in developing countries where gas is produced, it is widely used despite the huge initial investment required for gas supply infrastructure. As the world goes through an energy transition and the fossil fuel era comes to an end, gas is expected to play a critical role. It is for this reason that PM Modi has set an ambitious goal of 15 percent and to reach 70 percent of the Indian population by 2030. That being so, why are his own party MLAs opposing gas for Mysuru?

PNG is safer and environmental-friendly

PNG (mostly methane) has one carbon atom whereas LPG (which is a blend of propane and butane) has three and four carbon atoms. Thus PNG is lighter than LPG and produces less Green House Gases (GHGs).

GHGs are the reasons for the world temperature to increase. Today, temperature is already higher by one degree compared to pre-industrial era. Thus by switching from LPG to PNG, we contribute to reducing climate change, contrary to what some have claimed during the press briefings.

It is true that methane is one of the potent Green House Gases when it is let go into the atmosphere. But PNG is burnt and not let into the atmosphere. Thus to claim that it contributes to climate change more than LPG is to mislead the public by comparing apples and oranges.

Both LPG and PNG need to be handled carefully since both are easily combustible. But handling methane is far safer than LPG because it disperses into the environment quickly. Thus fire hazard is reduced. As is well-known, handling LPG cylinders is not easy, especially for elderly people.

Much ado about nothing

There is much ado about nothing about the road-digging charges. Ostensibly this seems to have caused BJP MLAs to differ from BJP MP. They claim that the city is short changed. After talking with the Manager of AG&P Pratham, a Singapore-based company which is the distribution company for Mysuru, I found out that fees paid are really not just for digging. It is actually the fees paid to the city for giving rights to lay the pipeline.

However, if it involves laying pipelines also by digging asphalted roads, then the company should pay an additional amount to the city for asphalting.

Whether it is laying pipeline on footpath or on roads, the company has to restore the land by filling the dug up roads to its original condition. According to the AG&P, the amount paid by the PNG company in Hubballi (owned by Adani and Indian Oil) is Rs. 300 per metre for footpaths and for roads it is Rs. 900 - Rs.1,000 per metre.

However, in Bengaluru where the contractor is GAIL (Public sector company, Gas Authority of India Limited), irrespective of footpath or roads, the amount is the same which is Rs. 2,200 per metre. One of the reasons for higher cost is that in Bengaluru per metre more connections can be given because of higher density.

MLAs and Corporators felt that rates fixed for road laying charges were not adequate. Did they think that Mysuru should also get the same rate as Bengaluru of Rs. 2,000 per metre? Even so, they could have negotiated the rates with AG&P instead of finding faults.

Corporators could have made a counter offer after analysing fees charged in different cities. Since AG&P has flexibility in charging PNG customers, they should be amenable to a higher rate. Instead the public was given the impression that the roads cannot be repaired for the quoted rates when in fact the real reason was different.

Conclusion

I have attempted to shed more light on why PNG is preferred to LPG from just about every consideration — safety, ease of handling, economics, climate change, etc. When the future history of Mysuru will be written, political games played by our elected leaders will become a shameful chapter in infamy. When they prevented the 24x7 water supply project from being implemented by JUSCO in Mysuru, we the people kept quiet. Let us not allow history to repeat in the case of PNG supply also.

Economics of PNG Vs LPG

Let us look at all important factors of economics of PNG as against LPG. Here again the public has been given the wrong information. Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) used in vehicles cost Rs. 65 per kg. CNG gives about 20 kms while one litre of petrol costing Rs. 100 gives about 20-22 kms. Assuming a vehicle runs for about 50 kms per day, the owner can save about Rs. 32,000 per year. Thus he can recover the CNG conversion cost in 1.3 to 2 years.

On the other hand, for residential customers who on average consume six LPG cylinders per year, annual savings would be Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,447 if they switch to PNG.

AG&P is already supplying CNG to six service stations in Mysuru by using expensive Cryogenic tankers. Gas is cooled to -260 F (-160C) and is transported as LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) in these tankers from Ennore. However, once the gas pipeline

from Bidadi to Mysuru is constructed, natural gas will be supplied in gaseous form which is much cheaper and safer. Here again the public was given the wrong information that PNG gets "solidified" at lower temperature!

Above savings are based on the LPG cylinder cost of Rs. 902 and PNG cost of Rs. 1,130 to Rs. 750 per million BTU. These savings can change depending on three factors:

1. If the Government gives a higher or lower subsidy to LPG.

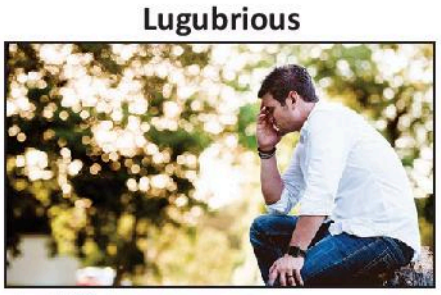
2. If the price charged to gas distribution companies by the Government changes.

3. Distribution company decides to use its monopoly power to charge more and still be competitive.

It is sufficient to state that all these three can happen without elaborating them. It would take an even larger article to discuss them. Still it is a safe bet that PNG is more economical than LPG unless the so-called APM (Administered Price Mechanism) increases significantly. APM is set by the Petroleum Ministry based on international prices.

WORD OF THE DAY

Lugubrious



Pronunciation: loo-GOO-bree-us.
Meaning: Lugubrious means "mournful" or "dismal." It can also mean "very sad in an exaggerated or insincere way."
Origin: Lugubrious is the sole surviving English offspring of Latin lugēre, meaning "to mourn." Its closest kin, luctual, an adjective meaning "sad" or "sorrowful," was put to rest centuries ago.
Example: "Would [Steve Spielberg's] notoriously ill-received 1941 have worked as a musical? Maybe not; it might well have retained the moments where its spectacle turns lugubrious, straining and burdening the comedy that's supposed to hold it up. On the other hand, while it's uneven as a comedy, 1941 is a marvel of choreography." — Jesse Hassenger

THE ODD WORD

Lacustrine

Of, like or pertaining to lakes.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Let the cat out of the bag

Meaning: 'Let the cat out of the bag' means accidentally revealing information that you weren't supposed to reveal.
Origin: Most of us have let the cat out of the bag at some time. The origin of the idiom "let the cat out of the bag" is an interesting one. In medieval times, livestock such as piglets, chickens and ducks were bagged for sale. Some dishonest livestock brokers put cats into bags rather than the actual animals advertised for sale; the cats were about the same size and weight, but were considered to be of little value. When unsuspecting customers returned home and discovered the secret, they were said to have "let the cat out of the bag."
Example: "Tim let the cat out of the bag about my surprise birthday party."

QUOTE BOX

Cats are connoisseurs of comfort. — **James Herriot**

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

Answer: Wheels within wheels.

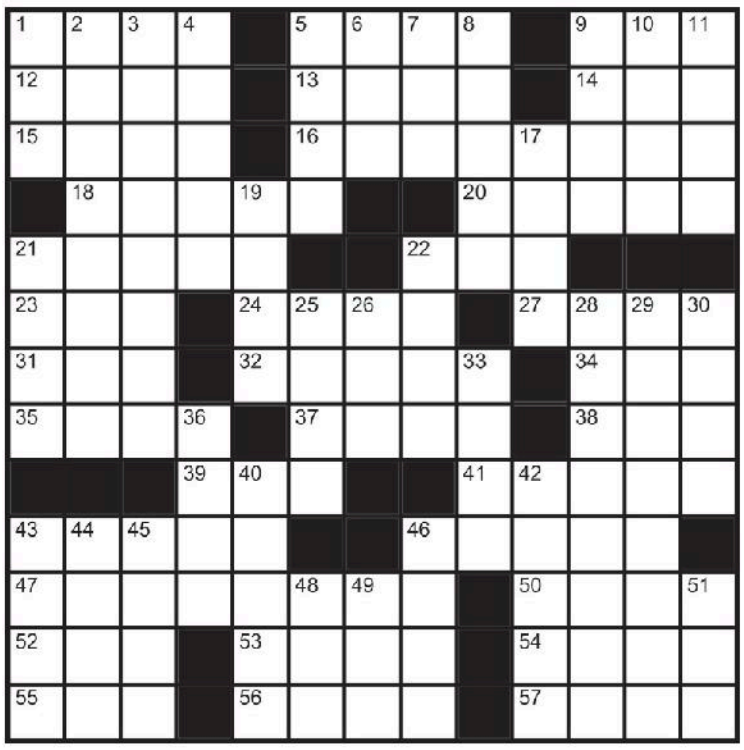
CROSS WORD

ACROSS:
1 Walk up and down or to and fro?
5 Lhasa ____ : a type of pet furry dog?
9 Fore and ___ : from bow to stern of a ship?
12 Son of Seth, grandson of Adam?
13 Middle-Easterner
14 Cry of disapproval
15 Fabled birds
16 Golf trophy - "Cry prude" anagram? (5,3)
18 Decree of a tsar
20 Large spoon
21 Rhone River feeder
22 Young one of any of various fur-bearing animal
23 Some people are, in company!
24 Persian fairy
27 Enfeebles, depletes or exhausts
31 Hula accompaniment
32 Roman river
34 An enemy
35 Protectors for the batsman
37 Split or cleave
38 Fuel Sys. Controller
39 Large, abbr.
41 Sever or apportion
43 Arabh sheikhdom
46 Corpulent, porter
47 The whole of creation
50 Antitoxins
52 Electrically charged atom
53 British nobleman
54 One who considers himself to be superior
55 Genetic material
56 Acronym heralding weekend
57 Sicilian volcano

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

A	B	E	L	■	A	M	O	I	■	I	P	S
S	I	R	E	■	R	O	U	N	D	S	U	P
E	G	G	S	■	A	B	I	D	E	S	B	Y
A	B	S	O	R	B	S	■	E	L	U	L	■
■	■	■	T	D	S	■	I	N	L	A	I	D
D	O	S	H	I	■	A	L	T	■	B	C	A
A	U	T	O	■	C	S	K	■	A	L	L	Y
S	T	P	■	C	A	B	■	O	B	E	Y	S
T	R	E	M	O	R	■	T	A	S	■	■	■
■	A	T	E	E	■	H	I	T	C	H	E	S
A	G	F	G	R	O	U	P	■	O	F	N	E
H	E	R	A	C	L	E	S	■	N	I	D	E
A	D	S	■	E	D	D	Y	■	D	R	O	P

DOWN
1 For each
2 Sitarist ___ Shankar
3 Askew
4 ___ Steel: manufacturers of Hot Rolled Steel Coils at Hazira?
5 Swiss river - change of "area"?
6 Peer or be nosey
7 Morose or glum
8 Script symbols
9 Passing grades
10 Noisome
11 Drink liquor to excess
17 Large mice
19 Irish clan
21 The game __ __ : you are exposed, in a way? (2,2)
22 Capital of Ukraine situated on the Dnieper River
25 Dublin is its capital
26 Rsrv. Bk. of India
28 Wealthy
29 The antiparticle of an electron
30 Religious denomination
33 Take it easy
36 eg Czech
40 Address or welcome
42 Sheriff's men
43 One pound sterling
44 Later, by and by
45 ____ Turner : famous singer?
46 One's own person
48 Fragment of cloth
49 ___ Lanka : 1996 Cricket World Cup winners?
51 Arab sleeveless garment



SUDOKU

	7		5				3	8
	2							
			6		3	1		
7			8				5	
8			2	3	6			7
	3				7			4
		5	3		4			
							8	
9	8				5		6	

Answer to previous puzzle

1	4	8	9	5	2	6	7	3
3	5	9	8	6	7	1	4	2
7	2	6	1	3	4	5	9	8
8	1	3	4	2	6	7	5	9
2	7	5	3	1	9	8	6	4
9	6	4	5	7	8	3	2	1
6	8	7	2	9	1	4	3	5
4	3	2	7	8	5	9	1	6
5	9	1	6	4	3	2	8	7

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

WSS OWIM WIA NLYLS OWIM, BANWXMA

WSS EAF WIA BIDJGAIM.

TODAY'S CLUE: S EQUALS L

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: No degree of dullness can safeguard a work against the determination of critics to find it fascinating.

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

- **Gayathri Theatre** Ph: 2443568
  Love Mocktail 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Woodlands Theatre** Ph: 2422871
  Love Mocktail 2 (K) - 4 Shows
- **Mahadeshwara Theatre** Mob: 9900820093
  Oppanda (K) - 4 Shows
- **Lido Theatre** Ph: 2420885
  Oppanda (K) - 4 Shows
- **Sangam Theatre** Ph: 2520494
  Rowdy Baby (K) - 2 Shows; *Khiladi (Te)* 2 Shows
- **Padma Theatre** Ph: 2521923
  Khiladi (Te) - 4 Shows
- **Rajkamal Theatre** Ph: 2423554
  FIR (Ta) - 4 Shows
- **Balaji Theatre** Ph: 2497199
  Balaji (K) - 4 Shows

DRC CINEMAS — Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Love Mocktail 2 (K)	(S-1)	10.15 am, 1.15 pm, 4.05 pm, 10 pm
	(S-4)	1.10 pm, 7.10 pm
Khiladi (Te)	(S-1)	6.50 pm
	(S-4)	10.00 am, 4.05 pm, 10.00 pm
Death On The Nile (E)	(S-2)	10.40 am, 7.10 pm
FIR (Ta)	(S-2)	1.10 pm
Fourwalls (K)	(S-2)	4.15 pm
Moonfall (E)	(S-2)	9.55 pm
Rowdy Baby (K)	(S-3)	10.45 am
Oppanda (K)	(S-3)	1.05 pm
Badhaai Do (H)	(S-3)	4.00 pm, 7.00 pm, 9.55 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE — Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Badhaai Do (H)	(S-1)	12.20 pm, 6.40 pm, 9.55 pm
	(S-4)	9.35 am
Death On The Nile (E)	(S-1)	9.30 am
	(S-4)	3.30 pm
Love Mocktail 2 (K)	(S-2)	9.30 am, 12.40 pm
		6.35 pm, 9.45 pm
Khiladi (Te)	(S-3)	11.15 am, 2.40 pm
		6.05 pm, 9.30 pm
Oppanda (K)	(S-1)	3.35 pm
Fourwalls (K)	(S-4)	6.25 pm
Rowdy Baby (K)	(S-2)	3.50 pm
Ide Antaranga Shuddhi (K)	(S-4)	12.45 pm
FIR (Ta)	(S-4)	9.40 pm

PVR CINEMAS

Forum Centre City Mall, 2nd Floor. Mob: 8951357139

Moonfall (E)	9.25 am, 4.05 pm, 6.35 pm, 9.55 pm
Death on the Nile (E)	10.20 am, 1.05 pm, 4.05 pm, 9.50 pm
Marry Me (E)	10.20 am, 1.20 pm, 7.05 pm
Badhaai Do (H)	11.30 am, 3.10 pm, 6.20 pm, 10 pm
Khiladi (Te)	11.45 am, 2.55 pm, 6.35 pm, 9.45 pm
Fourwalls (K)	11.55 am
Love Mocktail 2 (K)	12.30 pm, 3.40 pm, 6.50 pm, 10 pm
FIR (Ta)	3.10 pm
Rowdy Baby (K)	7.10 pm
DJ Tillu (Te)	9.40 pm

1st Floor, Garuda Mall. Mob: 9901373210

Khiladi (Te)	11.15 am, 2.40 pm, 9.30 pm
Death on the Nile (E)	11.55 am 6.20 pm, 9.45 pm
Love Mocktail 2 (K)	12.15 pm, 6.50 pm, 10.00 pm
Preethigibbaru (K)	12.55 pm
FIR (Ta)	2.55 pm
Badhaai Do (H)	3.25 pm, 6.05 pm, 9.20 pm
Ide Antaranga Shuddhi (K)	3.50 pm
DJ Tillu (Te)	6.50 pm

MVC MYSURU VISION CINEMAS — Ph: 0821 - 2973519

Fourwalls (K)	(S-1)	11.00 am, 6.45 pm
Rowdy Baby (K)	(S-1)	4.30 pm
	(S-3)	10.45 am
Khiladi (Te)	(S-1)	9.15 pm
	(S-4)	10.45 am, 1.45 pm, 6.20 pm
Love Mocktail 2 (K)	(S-2)	10.30 am, 1.15 pm, 4 pm, 6.45 pm, 9.30 pm
Badhaai Do (H)	(S-3)	6.20 pm, 9.15 pm
FIR (Ta)	(S-4)	9.15 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here.

IPL-2022 Auction

Ishan Kishan biggest buy on day 1 at Rs. 15.25 crore

Ishan Kishan

Bengaluru, Feb. 13- Avesh Khan became the most expensive uncapped player in the history of IPL auction as he was sold for Rs. 10 crore to Lucknow Super Giants. Ishan Kishan remained the biggest buy of day 1 as Mumbai Indians paid a whopping Rs. 15.25 crore to keep him.

An intense bidding war was witnessed for Deepak Chahar, with 4 teams locked in a big fight. He was eventually kept at CSK for Rs. 14 crore.

The evening session saw IPL teams splurge astronomical amounts to get their hands on uncapped players. Shahrukh Khan was sold for Rs. 9 crore to Punjab Kings from a base price of Rs. 40 lakh. Gujarat Titans paid the same amount to buy Rahul Tewatia. Rahul Tripathi was bought for Rs. 8.5 crore by Sunrisers Hyderabad.

KKR kept Shivam Mavi by paying Rs. 7.25 crore, while SRH paid Rs. 4 crore to get paceman Kartik Tyagi. South Africa's U-19 World Cup star Dewald Brevis was bought for Rs. 3 crore by Mumbai Indians while little known Karnataka batter Abhinav Sadarangani was bought for Rs. 2.6 crore by Gujarat Titans.

Avesh Khan becomes the most expensive uncapped player in the history of IPL

Kolkata Knight Riders had earlier broken the bank to get Shreyas Iyer on board for Rs. 12.25 crore. Rajasthan Royals paid Rs. 10 crore to bag rising India paceman Prasidh Krishna, while Gujarat Lions paid the same amount for New Zealand's Lockie Ferguson.

West Indian Nicholas Pooran was bought for Rs. 10.75 crore by Sunrisers Hyderabad. Sri Lanka's Wanindu Hasaranga went for Rs. 10.75 crore as RCB splurged the same amount on him and last season's purple cap winner Harshal Patel. Shardul Thakur was also bought for the same amount by Delhi Capitals.

Sunrisers Hyderabad picked up Washington Sundar for Rs. 8.75 crore, while Lucknow Super Giants paid Rs. 8.25 crore for Krunal Pandya. Punjab Kings used their large purse well to outbid Delhi Capitals to buy Kagiso Rabada and Shikhar Dhawan in early bidding.

Kolkata Knight Riders also bid big for Pat Cummins and Nitish Rana. Pacers Josh Hazlewood and Mark Wood were bought by RCB and Lucknow respectively.

Jason Holder was snapped up by Lucknow Super Giants for Rs. 8.75 crore, who also bought Quinton de Kock. Chennai Super Kings played the waiting game to get back Dwayne Bravo and Robin Uthappa and also added Ambati Rayudu to get their core back. Rajasthan Royals were also in action as they bought West Indies' Shimron Hetmyer for Rs. 8.5 crore and young opener Devdutt Padikkal for Rs. 7.75 crore. Delhi Capitals got a big bargain as they got David Warner for Rs. 6.25 crore. Yuzvendra Chahal was bought for Rs. 6.50 crore by Rajasthan Royals.

EVENTS TODAY (FEB. 13)

- **Sahaja Samrudha and Rotary Club of Mysore West:** 'Roots and Tuber Mela,' Nanjaraja Bahadur Choultry, **up to 7 pm.** [Entry fee for Mela: Rs. 10]
- **Hastashilpi:** 'Silk India-2022' expo, Hotel Southern Star, Vinoba Road, **up to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Art and Crafts:** Shopping Festival-2022, Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind DC office, **up to 9.30 pm.**
- **Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP):** Monthly awareness-cum-interaction (physical) programme on 'Role of Consumer Youth Clubs in Nation Building,' Basavaraju from Nehru Yuva Kendra, Mandya, guest speaker, open lawns of MGP Office, Yadavagiri, **4 pm to 5 pm.** [Ph: 0821-2515150]
- **Natana School of Theatre Arts:** Staging of play 'Bettale Arasana Raja Rahasya,' directed by Mandya Ramesh, School premises, Ramakrishnanagar, **6.30 pm.**
- **Rangayana:** Staging of play 'Prameelarjuneeyam' (Written by M.L. Srikanteshagowda and Directed by Digvijaya), Bhoomigeeta, Rangayana premises, **6.30 pm.**

EVENTS TOMORROW (FEB. 14)

- **Hastashilpi:** 'Silk India-2022' expo, Hotel Southern Star, **10.30 am to 8.30 pm.**
- **Sahara Art and Crafts:** Shopping Festival-2022, Handicraft and Handloom Expo-cum-Sale, Scouts & Guides Ground, behind DC office, **10.30 am to 9.30 pm.**
- **Yashoda Seva Trust:** Inauguration of the Trust, State Animal Welfare Board Regional Chairman Dr. S.K. Mittal inaugurates, Mayor Sunanda Palanetra unveils the plaque, former Professor Dr. Somegowda, Veeragase artiste Dr. Rudresh Prasad, Film Producer Chetan (Ramesh), Gastrosurgeon Dr. Deepak, Advocate Mariswamy Nayak, Gouthama Seva Trust President T.M. Govindaraju, Lashkar Police Sub-Inspector Dhanalakshmi, social worker N.P. Shivakumar, the city's General Physician Dr. Chandrakanth, Rajya Vokkaligara Yuva Shakti Vedike Mandya District Organising Secretary Chinakurali Pradeep, Srirangapatna social worker Dr. N. Saraswathi and social worker Dr. Venkataramu will be conferred 'Prajaratna' award, Institution of Engineers-India (IEI), JLB Road, **10.45 am.**

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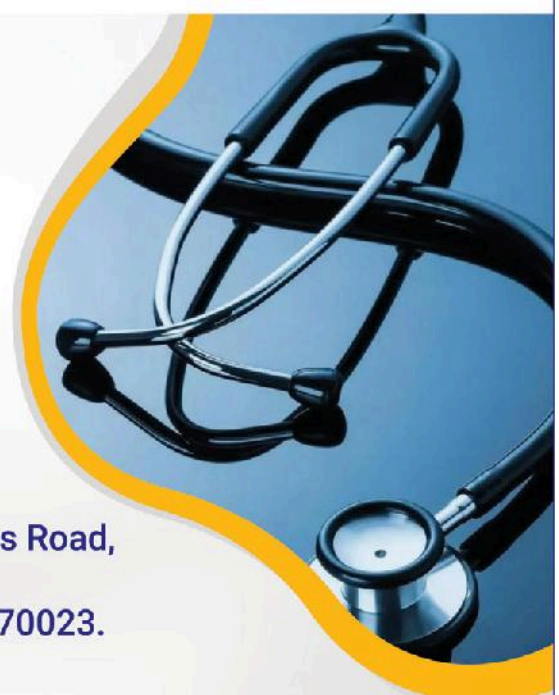
MIG-4, New Kantharaja Urs Road,
Near Vijaya Bank circle,
Kuvempunagar, Mysuru-570023.
6:30PM to 8:00PM
Get expert consultation. For Appointments:
9538886659/9880394712